



AN

**A P P E A L**

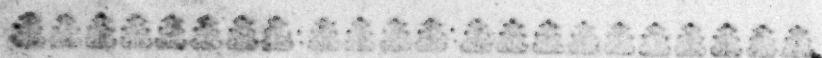
TO THE

**Commons and Citizens**

OF

**L O N D O N.**





AN

APPAL

TO THE

citizens



Commons

LONDON.



# R E M A R K S

On a late Pamphlet entitled,

## A D V I C E

TO THE

## P A T R I O T C L U B

Of the County of

## A N T R I M,

IN A

Letter from a Member of that CLUB  
to his Friend in *DUBLIN*.

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*DUBLIN*: Printed in the Year, 1756.





ANTHROPOLOGICAL

IN A

Letter from a Member of the Club

to his Friend in Dublin.

DUBLIN: Printed in the Year 1842.





unconnected, no doubt he meant for Sheer Wit and Humour; but he should have been well aware, that he himself might give a glaring example, in this very Pamphlet, of the Truth of his own Observation; "That it is no time to be  
 " feeling for Wit, when Men are choaking with  
 " the risings of the Spleen:" In truth, Wit and Humour bespeak a mind at ease, and therefore can never be attempted by an honest Man, on such deeply interesting Subjects as the Liberty and essential Rights of a Nation; and it is a very melancholly proof of the alarming Corruption of the present times, when, in a Land of Freedom, a Man can be found so base, as to attempt to ridicule the sacred Names of Virtue, Liberty, and Public Spirit; that Man surely must be void of all Shame, and if he acts on any Principles, a direct Enemy to the inseparable interests of his Majesty and this Nation, who endeavours to ridicule that bulwark of the Protestant Succession and the Liberties of these Kingdoms, the PROTESTANTS of the NORTH of IRELAND, for their "Antipathy against arbitrary Power, *French Money*  
 " Wooden Shoes, the *Pretender*, and Tyranny in  
 " every Shape," and this too, at a time, when these Kingdoms are in danger of being attacked by their perfidious and inveterate Enemies: It is true he ascribes these shocking Principles only to the Members of the Patriot Club of the County of *Antrim*, but they are indubitably the Principles of the whole body of the Protestants of the North of *Ireland*, and if ridiculous in the Gentlemen of the Club, must be so in every one else: happily for the Cause of Virtue and Liberty, any attempt to turn them to ridicule must for ever be impotent, and recoil with violence against their puny  
 and

and corrupt Enemies : a Lesson which I would recommend to our Author hereafter to be governed by.

Our daring Author does not stop here ; aware that any attempt to render so potent and respectable a body contemptible and ridiculous, must be vain, he in the next place endeavours, having quit all appearance of Candour, to make the Members of the Patriot Club of the County of *Antrim* odious, by representing their Principles as purely republican, and subversive of the Constitution ; This, in his Conscience he must know, if he has any Knowledge, any Conscience, to be utterly false ; as they have most publicly and explicitly declared themselves, to be equally zealous for the preservation of every part of our most excellent Constitution ; equally zealous for the true Prerogative and established Rights of his Majesty, and the Liberties, Rights, and Privileges of the People ; having been always thorowly persuaded, that the least Infringement of the Rights of any part of the Constitution, must necessarily tend to the destruction of the whole, and that therefore the Interest of his Majesty and his Loyal and Protestant Subjects is, and must ever be, inseparable.

In another Part of this wonderful Performance, the Author, not having the least Idea that any Men can act without a View to their own private Interest, asserts, in his dark way, That the sole, or chief Purpose of the Members of the Club was, to free the Protestant Dissenters from the " Incapacities" they now lie under : Unluckily for the Author's Character ; he soon after, in  
Effect,



Effect, confesses, that he does not believe this; though his own, Assertion; for he very plainly; and, I believe, truly, insinuates, that the Person lately in so great Power, and who had been so particularly applauded, neither is, nor ever was a Friend to that Class of Protestants or their Interests; and therefore, as our Author will hardly represent the Members of the Club as absolute Fools, he must own, that his own Supposition, of their expecting from the *Speaker*, what they knew he never would grant, was absurd and chimerical; in Reality, as the Patriot-Club is composed indiscriminately of Gentlemen of the established Church and Protestant Dissenters, and as the Matters in Dispute were purely political, without the least Relation to any Distinctions amongst Protestants, the Supposition of a View so partial and foreign to the Affairs under Consideration, is equally false, childish and impertinent.

I come now to the Author's Reflections on the Conduct of the Members of the Patriot-Club of the County of *Antrim*, particularly with Regard to the *S\_\_\_\_\_*: He says, " That they have applauded every Part of his Conduct for twenty Years past, in solemn Addresses, by Healths and Toasts; and, without assigning any Reason, condemn him now in the Lump, for doing voluntarily what he had soon been compelled to, in case it had happened his Friends in Parliament did not encrease, instead of decreasing, as they daily and manifestly did." Now, though the Falshood of this whole Sentence is pretty universally known, yet it may not be amiss, in a few Words, to set this Matter in a clear

clear Light: In the Year 1753, immediately after a Scheme, which was then thought, and has since been, unanswerably proved to be destructive of the most important Rights of this Nation, was gloriously defeated; the Inhabitants of *Belfast* thought it their indispensable Duty, to shew their Gratitude to the Gentlemen who, in that critical Instance, had preserved their Country, and to exhort and encourage them to persevere in the same honourable and Patriot Principles; No method seemed more proper for this Purpose, than to pay the most public and explicit Marks of Honour and Regard to the Man, who was then at the Head of the true Friends of this Country: This was immediately, and most respectfully done, by the Intervention of two Gentlemen, in whom the independent Inhabitants of *Belfast* then had, and still have, the highest Confidence. It readily occurred to every one concerned in this Transaction, that many things had been formerly done by the S—r, which could not be justified, and therefore, both at this Time, and in all the Resolutions and Toasts of the Patriot-Club of the County of *Antrim*, which was some time after constituted, particular Care was taken to guard against any Expression, which might be construed as an Approbation of his Conduct in general: Indeed, every Motive that could be thought of, was publicly proposed to him and the Gentlemen he then co-operated with, to persuade them to continue inflexible and undaunted, in the glorious Defence of the Rights and Liberties of this Nation; if he had taken this sincere and wholesome Advice, his former blameable Actions would have been thought rather to have sprung from

from the Fault of his Head than his Heart ; at present, no Body can doubt, from whence all has proceeded.

The same invariable Zeal, for the real Honour and Happiness of his Majesty, and the Liberty and true Interest of this Kingdom, so closely and constitutionally connected, which prompted the independent Inhabitants of *Belfast* to honour and applaud him when he acted for the Good of his Country, laid the same independent Gentlemen, and the other Members of the Patriot-Club of the County of *Antrim*, under the disagreeable Necessity of declaring publicly their Detestation of his Conduct, when, for imaginary Honour and real Riches, he forsook the honourable Path he for some time trod, and gave up the Liberties, Rights and Manufactures of this Country, to the Mercy of a Cabal, who had used their utmost Influence to subject them all to the absolute Power of a Ministry, and whom he had, avowedly for that Reason, steadily and successfully opposed.

To state this same Affair in another Light ; In the ever memorable Year 1753, we were taught and thoroughly convinced, by that once great Man and his Friends, that the Party in Opposition to him had laid a Scheme entirely subversive of the vital Rights and Privileges of the House of Commons, and that all legal Means should be used, by every Rank of People, to defeat that malignant Measure, and to lessen, as much as possible, the Power of the Promoters of it; By an universal Spirit and Activity, the Scheme was for that time happily defeated, and all possible  
Marks



marks of Gratitude and Respect were paid to the S——r, and every other Gentleman on the same Side of the Question. Now, in the Year 1756, when that same Man, so highly before honoured, has bargained to transfer as much Power and Influence as he can, to that very Party, whose Schemes were proved to be essentially pernicious to the Liberty of this Country, and who used all their Influence of every kind to promote them, shall not the honest and disinterested Friends of their King and their Country plainly and loudly complain? Shall not this be called Treachery? No; our palliative Author tells us, that if he had not done it voluntarily, he would have been compelled, as his Friends were daily decreasing: This I do not believe to be true; for, I am persuaded, if our Author could have given any Evidence of it, he would gladly have done it; but the weakest reader can easily discern the difference between a real Proof and a bold Assertion; and the Fallacy of these seeming Proofs, drawn from the Patriot Party's allowing two Questions to be brought to the Chair, will plainly appear, when it is considered, that these Questions were not vitally important, and were of such a Nature, that personal Attachments undoubtedly had great sway, and therefore the Issues of them were, by no means, exact tests of the Strength of the respective Parties: But, for Argument Sake, let it be allowed, that his Friends were decreasing; our Author owns, that there was no Danger of his losing the Chair, and with that Advantage, backed by the Voice of the People, he would have found it easy to have prevented any material Alteration in the Constitution, or any great Mischief to the Nation, even if half of his former Friends had deserted him: But supposing, what

in truth, never could have been the case; that the Party, in opposition to him, could have carried their pernicious Schemes into Execution, in spite of any thing he could do to prevent them. What does he deserve, who deserts the Defence of his Country, at a Time, when he acknowledges it to be in the greatest and most imminent Danger? What does he deserve, who, at such a Time, instead of honestly opposing, to the utmost of his power, and to the last gasp, VOLUNTARILY, TAMELY, AND FOR SORDID AND SELFISH MOTIVES, does all in his Power to strengthen and support those he formerly most publicly declared to be Enemies of this Country? Our Author indeed tells us, that the Time for making the same Attempt, which was defeated last Session, is now over; what can be the meaning of this I know not: Are we only to provide against the Dangers of the present Hour? If we are to have any more Sessions of Parliament, may not that be done in a future Session by a Majority, which was attempted, in vain, by a Minority last Session? Surely it may; and we have the greatest Reason to expect, that the same Men, who pushed with their whole Force in 1753, to subject this Country to a Ministry, will in 1757, or some other Session, do it with Ease, when they are sure of a Majority: Even if the same Scheme could never be attempted again, which however is not the case, what Mischief may we not expect from such Men? But we are now advised, to judge of them, as we find them; we have found them; found them, in all the late Measures so imminently dangerous to this Nation: And therefore, what can be said in his Defence, who now delivers over as much

Power

Power as he can alienate to the very Person and his Party, whose public Measures and private Views, he very lately so loudly exclaimed against and so warmly opposed ? Indeed it is vain to attempt any Excuse for him ; one of these two Suppositions must be confessed, even by himself, to be the case ; either, that he has taken all the pains in his power, to alarm and inflame the Nation, when he really believed there was no Danger, merely to encrease his own Importance, and to sell that Importance for a better Price ; or else, that tho' he knows that his Country was, and still is, in the greatest Peril ; yet, as far as he was able, he has transferred all his Power and Ability, to save it from Danger, to those whom he has publicly declared to be the authors, or at least, the promoters of that Danger ; in either case, he undoubtedly deserves the Resentment and Abhorrence of all honest Men ; but as the Schemes of last Session have been long ago shewn, to a Demonstration level to the meanest Capacity, to have been in the highest Degree pernicious, every candid mind must be convinced that the last Supposition is his real Case ; and upon Reflection, his whole Conduct this Session will be found to be perfectly consistent with that Character : Did not he promise, most solemnly, last Session, that nothing should be concluded with Regard to the Operations of this Session, without the Knowledge and Approbation of the whole Body of Patriots, who had so firmly supported him ? Did not he break this solemn Promise ? Did he not privately agree to a Form of Address, and allow it to be sent over the Water to be corrected ; in which effectual Care was taken not to mention the least Hint of that constitutional and essential



Right of the Commons, to propose to the Crown with Regard to the Application of their own Money? Was this the clear Representation of the Rights of the Nation, which had been promised; and which was universally and rightfully expected? Has it not been plainly proved, by a late Writer, that the Claim of the Necessity of Previous Consent is still upon Record, and nothing in Opposition to it recorded, which can prevent it's Revival at any Time? Has not particular Care been taken, all this Session, to prevent the proposing any Question of truly national Importance which might have shewn the Patriots their Strength, and which would have unmasked his treacherous and selfish Schemes, before they were ripe for Execution? Has he not been unwearied in endeavouring to corrupt and bring over as many as he could to his destructive Views, by a thousand arts to blind those who suspected no evil, and by sowing the darkest suspicions to destroy that Confidence among the true Friends of Liberty, without which nothing material can be done for the Preservation of this unhappy Country? Many more Objections might be justly made to his Conduct this Session, but does not all this, with his now voluntarily surrendering his most honourable and important Station, to that Person whose Party and Measures he had so justly inveighed against and so strenuously opposed, incontestably prove the deep concerted Scheme of betraying the Rights and Liberties of this Nation, so steadily and successfully defended last Session? What may be the Consequence of this monstrous Treachery it is impossible to guess, but this is certain, that it is the indispensable duty of every honest

honest Man and Lover of his Country, to shew, by all legal means in his Power, his detestation of Villainy and Corruption, and with Heart and Hand to support even the smallest remains of true and disinterested Patriots.

Thus, Sir, I have plainly and honestly mentioned what immediately occurred to me on reading over this wretched Defence of a most wretched Cause, which really did by no means deserve any public Notice; but, as he had the assurance to Address his shameful Misrepresentations to the Patriot Club of the County of *Antrim*, I thought it my duty, as I have the Honour of being a Member of that Society, to write a few Lines to vindicate the Club from his groundless Aspersions, and to shew him and his Patron in their proper Colours.

It is hardly worth mentioning, that the Patriot Club has been also taken notice of by another indefatigable Scribler, who so frequently contradicts himself, and, *Drawcanfir* like, affronts both Friends and Foes, that his Writings, as sterling Nonsense, are really unanswerable; the present little Piece is most accurately described in these Lines of *Shakespeare*

It is a Tale,  
Told by an Ideot, full of Sound and Fury,  
Signifying nothing.

However, as the grand purpose of his Writing was manifestly to beg, I shall in one thing agree with him, and earnestly recommend it to the Gentleman, to whom he addresses his Advice,

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to pardon his Impertinence, and to give him some small matter to stop his Mouth; an event, which, I am Confident, would be highly and equally agreeable to all Parties.

I am, &c.

March 31, 1756.

A Member of the Patriot Club of the  
County of *Axtrim*.

F I N I S.

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